

REMARKS

In complete response to the Office Action of January 6, 2005, on the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicants have amended the specification to correct typographical errors. Claims 1-35 stand rejected. Applicants have amended claim 1 and claim 3 to correct deficiencies noted by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claims 1- 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicants have amended claim 1 to correct the indefinite language. The indefiniteness as to dependent claims 2-16 is cured by the amendment to parent claim1.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101:

Claims 17-35 stand rejected as claiming the same invention of a prior patent. Applicants have cancelled claims 17-35.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants thank the Examiner for his note regarding the allowability of claims 1-16. Applicants have amended claim 1 to address the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection of the parent claim, and believe claims 1-16 now stand in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call Linda K. Russell at the number listed below.

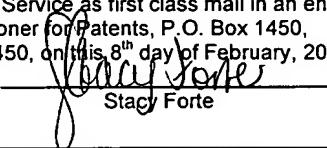
Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8th day of February, 2005.



Stacy Forte